

Department of State

TELEGRAM

ACTION: AMB
INFO: -- CRN

SECRET
Classification

JUL 28, 1973
STATE 148467

R 272216Z JUL 73
FM SECSTATE WASHDC
TO AMEMBASSY KABUL 4987
BT
SECRET STATE 148467

EXDIS

O. 11652: GDS
TAGS: PINT, AF
SUBJECT: CONSULTATIONS WITH NEW GOVERNMENT
REF: KABUL 5546

FOR MEUMANN FROM SISCO

Cat. A	...
Cat. B	...
Cat. C	...
Reviewed	...
Date	11-20-89

1. WE, OF COURSE, HAVE BEEN FOLLOWING VERY CAREFULLY YOUR REPORTS OF YOUR CONVERSATIONS WITH THE NEW LEADERS OF THE AFGHAN GOVERNMENT. I REALIZE THAT THERE HAS BEEN A CONSIDERABLE AMOUNT OF INITIATIVE ON THE PART OF THE NEW GOVERNMENT TO SEEK DETAILED ADVICE FROM YOU, AND THIS HAS REQUIRED YOU TO BE RESPONSIVE, PARTICULARLY BECAUSE OF THE CLOSE, INTIMATE RELATIONSHIP YOU HAD WITH THE PREVIOUS GOVERNMENT AND A BREAK IN PAST PRACTICES MIGHT BE MISUNDERSTOOD.

2. HOWEVER, AS INDICATED IN YOUR MOST RECENT REPORT (KABUL 5546), YOU ARE BEING PUT IN RATHER TICKLISH SPOT GIVEN THE NATURE OF THE SPECIFIC ADVICE, PRIMARILY OF AN INTERNAL CHARACTER, WHICH IS BEING SOUGHT.

3. I LEAVE IT UP TO YOU AS HOW TO HANDLE THIS SITUATION. HOWEVER, WHILE CONTINUING MAINTAIN GENERALLY SYMPATHETIC POSTURE WITH NEW REGIME, I THINK IT PREFERABLE THAT YOU SEEK TO GET YOURSELF IN A POSITION WHERE MISSION IS IN SOMEWHAT LESS FORWARD POSITION AT LEAST FOR THE PRESENT.

WITH THE INITIATIVES ON ADVICE CLEARLY COMING FROM NEW REGIME.

4. I AM NOT SUGGESTING THAT THIS OBSERVATION IS MOTIVATED BY ANY DESIRE ON OUR PART FOR AN ARMS LENGTH RELATIONSHIP WITH THE NEW GOVERNMENT. ON THE CONTRARY WE ARE GENUINELY INTERESTED IN CONTINUING GOOD AND FRIENDLY RELATIONS, PARTICULARLY IN CIRCUMSTANCES WHERE SOVIETS MAY FEEL THAT PRESENT CIRCUMSTANCES ARE

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MORE PROPITIOUS TO THEIR OWN POLICY THAN UNDER THE PREVIOUS GOVERNMENT. HOWEVER, WE CLEARLY NEED TO AVOID GETTING INTO SITUATION WHERE WE MAY BE ASKED FOR SUPPORT AND FOLLOW-THROUGH OF KIND WE WOULD NOT BE IN POSITION TO DELIVER. WHILE WE MAY AT SOME POINT WISH TO DISCUSS SITUATION IN AFGHANISTAN FURTHER WITH IRAN AND PAKISTAN, RESPONSIBILITY AT THIS POINT (AS YOU HAVE RIGHTLY SUGGESTED) RESTS WITH DAUD REGIME TO LAY THEIR THEORS' FEARS TO REST BY THEIR OWN ACTIONS.

3. YOU MAY BE CERTAIN THAT WE WILL GIVE CAREFUL CONSIDERATION TO ANY RECOMMENDATIONS THAT YOU MAY HAVE INCLUDING MEASURES YOU CONSIDER APPROPRIATE IN CONTEXT OF POSSIBLE EVOLUTION OF REGIME'S POLICY TOWARD SOVIETS. WE WANT TO CONTINUE TO MAINTAIN KIND OF INFLUENCE WE HAVE HAD IN RECENT YEARS IN AFGHANISTAN. ROGERS
BT

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